The Sinclair Desktop Publishing Journal

Volume 2 Issue 2 Spring 1991
Edited By Mike Felerski

Two Evenings with Mike Hawks' Master-Scribe

From the Editor

System:	TS1000
Required:	16K or more RAM, TS2040 Printer or Aerco Printer I/F and EPSON Compatible Printer

Let's face it, the world of ZX81/TS1000/TS1500 desktop publishing is very, very limited. As a matter of fact, Mike Hawks' Master-Scribe is the only TRUE desktop publishing package available. The only other thing which even comes close are some of the more powerful word-processing packages for the TS1000, some of which allow some limited graphics.

Master-Scribe was written by Mike and Denise Hawks for the TS1000 family of computers running at least 16K of RAM. In my case I chose to use my 32K TS1500. Text data I/O is done via cassette and operates in a manner similar to the TS2068. A special routine was written to accomplish this because the TS1000 family does not directly support "CODE" saves.

The printer driver works with AERCO's CP-ZX or AERCO's CP2068 parallel printer interfaces connected to an Epson compatible dot-matrix printer.

(See "Master-Scribe" on page 2)

In This Issue:

- o 16 Point Font Patrol,
- o Two Evenings W/Master-Scribe,
- o Where to Write,
- o And The Great SDPJ Product Roundup...

16 Point Font Patrol

System:	TS2068
Product:	Enhancement, Pixel Print or The Print Factory

In the Winter 1991 issue of the SDPJ we talked about font packages available for the TS2068/Spectrum. These fonts could be loaded and displayed on screen or used in program packages such as Pixel Print or The Print Factory. In the second paragraph of the article, we promised to discuss larger point fonts in a future article. This article intends to discuss 16 Point fonts which can be used with Pixel Print or The Print Factory.

The largest source for 16 Point fonts is Mountaineer Software. Mountaineer provides not only the fonts but also a 16 Point Font Designer program.

The 16 Point Font Designer program uses pull-down menus and "point and click" cursor control to make menu selections and to turn on/off pixels. The created fonts are 16 pixels high by 8 pixels wide. The program SAVEs and LOADs via BASIC and comes ready for BASIC modification for the users specific DOS (the menu provides a Cassette or Disk option so only the Disk specific BASIC code needs to be altered for the users particular DOS).

Along with the package are twelve 16x8 point fonts, and thirteen 16x16 point MEGAfonts. The 16x8 point fonts can be directly LOADed into Pixel Print's LOAD FONT menu choice. When the font's name is saved (on cassette or disk) correctly with the first character of the name being a ! than Pixel Print automatically knows that it is a 16 point font and adjusts the program for it.

Before LOADing a font into The Press, the user is asked if the font to be LOADed is a single or double height font. A double height font is a 16 point font, and it is loaded into the FONT 2 and FONT 3 memory locations within The Press.

But so far all we have talked about is the 16x8 point fonts...so how does the user LOAD and use 16x16 point MEGA fonts? It is all done using a little trick to fool the host program. For the 16x16 point MEGAfonts to be printed, we need to use two key presses.

(See FONTS on page 2)

SDPJ Product Roundup

This issue introduces the Sinclair Desktop Publishing Journal's Product Roundup for Spectrums and TS2068s. The Roundup is a chart (created using Print Factory's "First Edition") listing eleven of the hottest products available for and related to desktop publishing for ZX Spectrums and TS2068s.

The chart indicates if the product is ZX and/or TS compatible, if it supports Disk I/O, who it is available from, a short description and the approximate price.

In coming issues we hope to publish Roundups for TS1000, QL and Z88 desktop publishing products. So check out page 4 of this issue, and look out for future "Roundups"!

Fonts

from front page...

The first half of the MEGAfont character is the CAPS SHIFT or shifted character and the second half is the un-shifted character key press. Of course this means that the user can only have the uppercase or the lowercase character set in memory at one time.

Conclusion: 16 point and 16 point MEGAfonts provide better character resolution for large point fonts. This makes them excellent for headlines over the conventional method of using a "Double" function to double the height of 8x8 point fonts (as per Pixel Print). They are also an excellent enhancement to The Print Factory's: The Press.

Now, for an actual Pixel Print look at Mountaineer Software's 16 point and 16 point MEGAfonts, turn to page 3...

Master-Scribe

from front page...

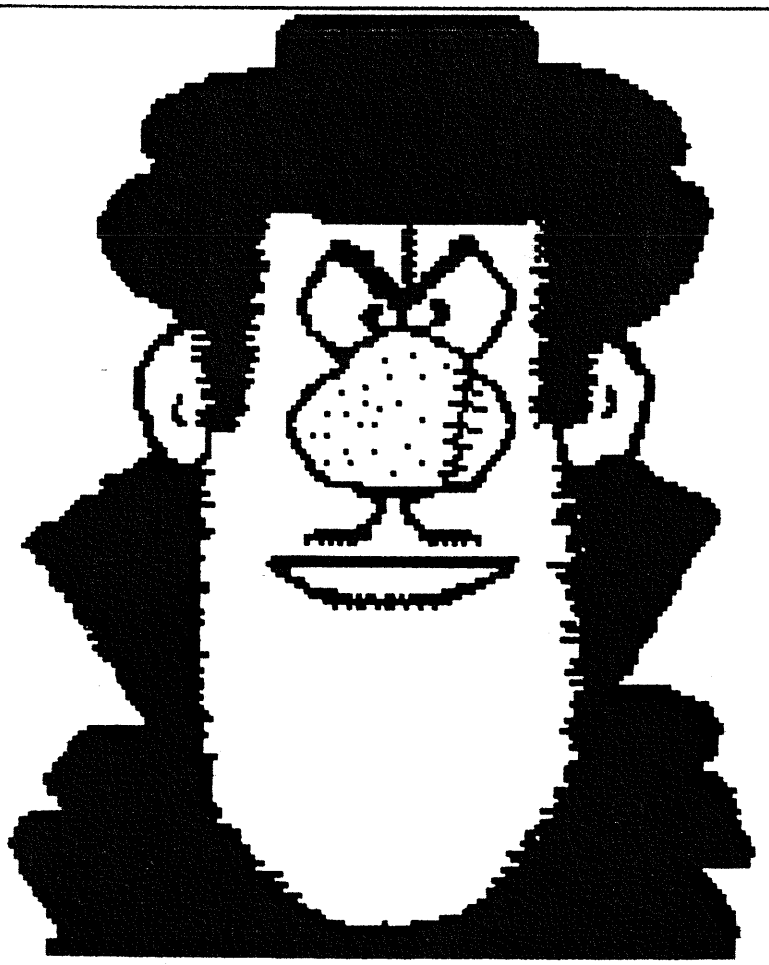
Master-Scribe was originally sold through E. Arthur Brown company until Brown stopped carrying Timex Sinclair products. I also belaive that the authors sold the product directly. Numerous sinclair users, including myself have tried to contact the Mike and Denise Hawks about purchasing copies of the product. In each instance, there was no response at all.

I was able to obtain a copy of the program and the user manual from a member of my user group. All I can recommend is that you try to find a copy (to make a copy from). If you are unable to obtain a copy, the SDPJ will provide a copy of the program(s) and the documentation for $10.00 which will cover the cost of tape and documentation duplication.

Now let's take a look on page 5 at my initial two nights exploring Master-Scribe!

This issue was created using Word-Master for pages 1 and 2, Pixel Print for page 3, The Print Factory's First Edition 1.0 for page 4, and Master-Scribe for pages 5 and 6. All original printing was done on a Panasonic KX-P1091 9 pin dot-matrix printer.

Where to Write for Products Mentioned in this month's Sinclair Desktop Publishing Journal



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Since a picture is worth a thousand words (or so they say), let's take a look Mountaineer Software's 16-Point fonts:

HEADLINE
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

IBM
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

MICR
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

ADVENTURE
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

OUTLINE
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

GATSBY
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

This now brings us to the Mountaineer Software MEGAfonts. These are 16x16 pixel characters which are created using two key presses. The first half of the character is the "Caps Shift" of the character, and the second part is the un-shifted character key.

HELVETICA
helvetica

TIMES
times

OUTLINE
outline

OXFORD
oxford

STREAMER
streamer

HELVETICA
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

TIMES
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

BOXBLOCK
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

RITZ
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

SINCLAIR
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

GRANDPRIX
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Thus we have them, all 12 of the 16-Point (8 pixel wide) fonts. Any of the above fonts may be LOADed directly into Pixel Print or Print Factory's "The Press"!

NEW YORK
new york

BIGBLUE bigblue

FLAPPER
flapper

MARQUEE marquee

ART DECO
art deco

GRANDPRIX
grandprix

Both upper and lowercase fonts are LOADed separately, as individual fonts. The fonts below are supplied in uppercase characters ONLY:

BRISBANE

BROADWAY

THE GREAT SINCLAIR DESKTOP PUBLISHING JOURNAL PRODUCT ROUNDUP FOR SPECTRUMS AND TS2068s

	SPECTRUM	TS2068	DISK I/O	RMS	ED GREY	MOUSE/TRACKER	ROMANTIC ROBOT	OTHER	Description	Price
Print Factory	◆	◆		◆					A	Create just about anything with this package of programs	$27.95
Word-Master	◆			◆		◆	◆			Most flexable and professional DTP package for Spectrum	$70.00 3 pgms +fonts
Pixel-Print		◆		◆		◆		◆		B	The original heavy duty DTP program. Not a flexable as WM	C
OCP Art Studio	◆			◇						D	The BEST graphics pgm. for Spectrum. DATEL Ltd. includes Genius Mouse & I/F.	£49.99 + S&H
VideoFace	◆	◆		◆				◆			Excellent Spectrum video digitizer. Some report it works with Std. TS2068.	£29.95 (Sale) + S&H
Pix-FX		◆		◆			◆			E	One of a kind SCREEN manipulator for DTP. Great for special effects. Menu driven	$25-30 (Disk vers. more)
Print Factory Companion Series	◆	◆		◆						A	Lots of neat stuff to compliment your Print Factory Pkg., a MUST HAVE!	$29.95
First Class Fonts II	◆	◆		◇							28 Super fonts+ manager & word proc.	$22.95
Pixel Print Font Pkg.		◆		◆		◆		◆			19 nifty, unique fonts & manager pgm.	Varies
Jack Dohany Font Mgr.		◆		◆		◆					Great font manager utility + nice fonts	$20.00
Pixel Print and Zebra Icon Pkgs.		◆		◆		◆		◆			You might as well sell your system if you don't own these!	Varies

NOTES:

The SDPJ is NOT responsible for chart errors.

A: Available from Byte Power Magazine Only.
B: Public Domain, if you cannot find a copy, contact SDPJ.
C: Public Domain, price depends on postage & copying cost.
D: Available from DATEL, Ltd., England.
E: Also VectorWare 4128-1/2 Calif. Ave, Seattle, WA 98116.
◆: Is Supported, or can easily be converted via BASIC.
◇: Is NOT Supported, although there is an Art Studio to Larken conversion by a third party. There is no known disk conversion for First Class Fonts II.

Master-Scribe, The First Evening

After looking over the users manual, I decided that my first goal was "Type and Print". I decided to start with version 1.1 which drives Epson compatible printers through the Aerco parallel printer interface (I really wanted to see some full-size printer output through my Panasonic). So, I slapped in the version 1.1 cassette and Master-Scribe 1.1 LOADed **THE FIRST TIME!**

Next, I decided to follow the tutorial. I know...most of us are "If all else fails, read the instructions" type people, but in the case of Master-Scribe, it is a good idea to at least browse through the owners manual as I did. You see, Master-Scribe is not only a multi-program set, but it also operates in a multi-mode environment. Things are not exactly "What you see is what you get"!

The first feature which impressed me was the documentation. It was completly produced using the Master-Scribe software itself. The output for the manual is very impressive from both TS2040 and full-size dot-matrix printers.

The second feature I was impressed with (and I thought would win the hearts of many a TS1000 user) was the swift speed of the keyboard entry. Screen jump was also minimal except during deletes and cursor movements. I was also pleased with the ease at which "modes" are changed to access special features. But before we start looking at the different "modes", let us take a look at the five (yes I did say five) different programs that make up the Master-Scribe collection.

The Five Programs of Master-Scribe

Keep in mind that the TS1000 and TS1500 computers are not the most memory wealthy computers. Therefore, in order to

provide numerous features in such a restrictive system, five seperate Master-Scribe programs were developed:

Version 1.0	TS2040/Bold Font
Version 1.0A	TS2040/Slim Font
Version 1.1	Full-Size printer/Bold Font
Version 1.1A	Full-Size printer/Slim Font
Version 1.2	Full-Size, Non-Grapics printer

So to sum up, we have two versions of the program which will work with the TS2040 printer, and three versions for driving full-size printers through the Aerco printer interface. Thus we have five programs with the exact same feel in editing and operations, but each with different output drivers and fonts.

The Second Evening, Graphics

One of Master-Scribes better features is its ability tr print graphic characters within text (except version 1.2). My second evening was "In Search of Graphics"! This second page is an example of using TS1000 graphics to create a box around text. The box was much more difficult than I thought it was going to be, but the graphics below were much easier. Let's take a look at a sampling of the graphic characters available:

TS1000 Block Graphics:	▘ ▝ ▖ ▗ ▌ ▐ ▀ ▄ ▙ ▛ ▜ ▟ ▞
Card Symbols:	♠♥♦♣
Misc. Punctuation:	'!'¢[∞]$()"@{}\%#-+=:;?/*<>,£
Misc. Symbols:	⊖ΨΓΩΦ©ΣΔ®ΓΛ~Ξ←↓↑→Π

Finally...

Our final page for this issue is a special appendix for the commands/features available from Mike Hawk's Master-Scribe for the TS1000 family...

A List of
Master-Scribe Commands

Left Justification
Right Justification
Center Text
Full (Left & Right) Justification

Start/Stop Underline
Inverse Printing
Subscript
Superscript
Normal Characters
Tall Characters (Double Height)
Page Start (Formfeed)

Single Space Linefeeds (Graphics)
Double Space Linefeeds

And in addition to these, there are Main Menu commands to Copy, Move, Delete, Print and Save (to cassette) "Marked" sections of text/graphics. You can even Define words for creating form letters. Lastly, there are commands for jumping to the Beginning and End of the file and Search for words.

Look for more articles on Master-Scribe in future issues of the Sinclair Desktop Publishing Journal!